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 SECURITY INFORMATION  
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

50X1-HUM

**INFORMATION REPORT**

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 20 Feb. 1952

SUBJECT Shortage of Drugs in Bulgaria

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1. Soviet penicillin is the only antibiotic of its sort available to the general public in Bulgaria. The supply is satisfactory, but the potency of the Soviet preparation is less than that of [ ] equivalent, and Bulgarian doctors find that they must administer approximately 150,000 units of Soviet penicillin to obtain the effect of 100,000 units of Glaxo Penicillin G. 50X1-HUM
2. Only sulphanamides of Soviet manufacture are available in Bulgaria. The potency is extremely low in comparison with [ ] standards, and these drugs are in particularly short supply in Bulgaria at present. 50X1-HUM
3. One way in which the Bulgarian authorities find they can augment their supply of medical preparations to a certain extent is to confiscate about 90 percent of the contents of all parcels of drugs arriving in the country from the west addressed to private citizens. Since there is a considerable number of Bulgarian emigrants who send medical stores to their families in Bulgaria, this source of supply is not as insignificant as might be supposed.

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